

drum brakes and disc brakes and how technically, disc brakes are better but our car has drum brakes.

This scene is so familiar to me because it was in those times I could literally see him leave my time frame and go back to the early seventies. He's built himself and rebuilt himself an even better Chevy Camaro (obviously, red) and this car is legendary for spitting fire and raking in the speeding tickets all over north Texas. Not to mention the famous ticket you were most proud of: the one you received for disturbing the peace because your car's idle was too loud. You see he loved these things because he carefully built these things lovingly with his own hands—just how he built our family.

His first attempt at building a son obviously more flawed, contained more mistakes not for lack of love or care. Just maybe he spent a little too long trying to build as much in from the get-go. He named this project Chris and it remains one of the only things he made that was so full of love that nobody could every question this one most-important goal of the project. Not just to build a wondrous and wonderful human being: my brother. But to ensure this child would know he was loved not by saying it but by doing it. This child never went hungry, never had to be homeless, and got one of the best educations possible in that time at that space. This child indeed would become just as precisely crafted by hand as the Camaro.

Son number 2 was by name and by necessity different. He must have decided to hold back more on the built in features and leave some room for exploration, for curiosity, for discovery of the truth of things and how they behave in the world. A son who would rather go on a nature walk or be taken to a local park than sit in his bedroom reading voraciously as did number 1. Chris, in this way, added quite a bit to his own education and discovery. The end goal was the same: that they would learn and grow and know that one thing that could never be questioned, doubted, or denied: These two projects, these two things, made lovingly with his own hands would always be to him the pinnacle of his achievements, would always be what he was most proud of or loved the most.

In short: I feel the truth of the love he had for me, my brother, and my family and it is indestructible, absolute, and unending. I could never capture how I felt about my father and how he viewed the world and me if I simply and directly laid it all out. The sheer weight of importance of just one fact: that he made many sacrifices to his own life that ours might be better is indescribably massive.

Finally, if you knew John, I mean REAL-ly knew him, though he might not ever say it to you, you just knew he loved you dearly. His love was never obvious, conventional, or easy to understand. That was my dad: a man with a huge capacity to love and did so, clearly communicating it is the only flaw. But how insignificant is this flaw compared to the size of his heart? I love you Dad. I miss you so much already. I can't wait for you to hear me read it. Love, Zach

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere condolences to the family of John Michael Anstett.

RECOGNIZING DOUBLE TEN DAY

HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the upcoming Double Ten

Day, the Republic of China's, also known as Taiwan, national day, which falls on October 10th. As the House will not be in session that day, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my early best wishes to the people of Taiwan.

Over the past 50 years, Taiwan has undergone dramatic political, social, and economic changes and is now the only democracy in the Chinese speaking world. This year, the people of Taiwan witnessed the third peaceful transition of power with the election of the first woman to the Presidency, Dr. Tsai Ing-wen.

There are important common values and principles that link the United States and Taiwan, including respect for human rights, freedom, and democracy and I commend President Tsai Ing-wen for reiterating Taiwan's commitment to these values.

Taiwan has been and will continue to be a reliable and vital trading partner in East Asia. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. trade in goods with Taiwan reached U.S. \$66 billion last year, making Taiwan our 9th largest trading partner in 2015.

Taiwan is a prosperous society, a major contributor to the global economy, and plays an important role in the peace and security of the Asia-Pacific region. As such, it is troubling to know that Taiwan continues to be barred from a number of international organizations, many of which, like the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), serve to promote safety and strengthen diplomacy among the global community. For the sake of passenger safety and international security, the country must be brought into the ICAO fold. Taiwan should be invited to attend the ICAO Assembly on a regular basis, enabling it to keep up-to-date with important matters and assist the Assembly in ensuring the safe, secure, and sustainable development of international civil aviation.

In closing, I applaud the nation of Taiwan for its strong commitment to democratic values and I wish them all the best at their celebrations in Taiwan and at the Twin Oaks Estate.

HONORING DEAN VICTOR WHITE

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a dear friend, a business visionary, a World War II veteran, and a dedicated community leader from the Hoosier State.

Mr. Dean V. White passed away on Wednesday, September 14, 2016. Dean attended the University of Nebraska and was a 1945 graduate of the Merchant Marine Academy in King's Point, New York. Dean served in the South Pacific during World War II as First Mate.

Dean joined his father's billboard company, White Advertising, in 1946. During his years at the helm of that company, he grew its portfolio with investments in real estate and hotel management and earned a spot on the Forbes 400 list. Dean, and his wife Barbara, created the Dean and Barbara White Family Foundation where they provided scholarships for local students, helped expand the Crown Point YMCA, and engaged in remodeling the Lake County Courthouse through the Crown Point Community Foundation.

Dean was always interested in politics, but not from a partisan perspective or interest. You see, Mr. Speaker, like many we in this chamber encounter, Dean White cared deeply about his community, our beloved Indiana, and this country. He knew he was blessed by this great nation that allowed him to freely pursue his dreams and grow his family.

Dean understood well the meaning of American Exceptionalism and knew we are the 'last best hope on earth'. So Dean, unlike many others with his kind of blessings, made sure to be involved in his government. He was a leader in this regard and in so many other ways.

I am grateful for the brief time we had together and I always learned from him during our conversations. I pray for Dean's family, his associates at White Advertising, and all who had the honor of knowing this great man.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF COLONEL ROBERT M. KIRILA, US ARMY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Colonel Robert M. Kirila, US Army, upon the occasion of his retirement. Colonel Kirila dedicated more than 25 years in the United States Army, with 19 years in Special Forces, most recently as Deputy Commander of the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), in Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. It is my privilege to pay tribute to his honorable service to Northwest Florida and our great Nation.

A native of Norfolk, Virginia, Colonel Kirila graduated Simsbury High School, in Simsbury, Connecticut in 1987 and immediately returned home to attend the University of Richmond. After graduating with a degree in Spanish, he was commissioned in the United States Army and served as a Platoon Leader in the 7th Infantry Division.

In 1997, Colonel Kirila graduated from the Special Forces Qualification Course, earning his Green Beret, and was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne). He served as Detachment Commander, Assistant Operations Officer, and Headquarters Company Commander during his tenure. He was then selected for duty in the Army Component Element at the United States Army Special Operations Command.

Upon graduating the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Colonel Kirila returned to the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) and served as Operations Officer and Executive Officer. In late 2005 he deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom where he served as the Director of Forward Operating Base North (FOB-13), Taji, in the heart of Iraq. Here he earned the Bronze Star Medal where he is credited with synchronizing the operations of three diverse centers responsible for supporting combat operations spanning over half of Iraq.

Colonel Kirila's success in Iraq was rewarded with an assignment to the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center & School where he served as Delta Company Commander and was responsible for running the legendary Robin Sage Unconventional Warfare Exercise for the Special

Forces Qualification Course. This was quickly followed by an assignment as the Director of Special Operations Proponency at the United States Special Operation Command in Tampa, Florida.

Since his arrival to the "Red Empire," 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in 2009, Colonel Kirila has called North Florida home. Here he initially served as a Battalion Commander and deployed to Afghanistan as the Deputy Commander of Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan. We are happy to hear he intends to remain as a permanent member of our community upon his retirement and we proudly welcome him.

Colonel Kirila's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. He has also earned the Special Forces Tab, the Ranger Tab, the Expert Infantryman's Badge, the Senior Parachutist Badge, the Pathfinder Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Combat Infantry Badge. His foreign awards include the El Salvadoran Parachutist Badge, the German Basic Parachutist Badge (Bronze) and the Canadian Parachutist Badge.

Mr. Speaker, without question, Colonel Robert M. Kirila, US Army, is retiring with an honorable career on which he can proudly hang his Green Beret. He has touched a number of lives throughout his time both in and out of the military and has given so much back to the country he loves so dear. It is my pleasure to join a grateful Northwest Florida community and Nation in saluting his lifetime of service. My wife, Vicki, and I thank Colonel Kirila; his wife, Chrissie; and daughters, Mia and Lily Agnes; and wish them all the best for continued success.

RECOGNIZING LASALLE-BACKUS EDUCATION CAMPUS'S COMMITMENT TO STEM EDUCATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the students, parents, and faculty of Lasalle-Backus Education Campus for their commitment to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics enrichment, and for participating in my annual Science and Technology Braintrust.

The teachers at Lasalle-Backus Education Campus are committed to ensuring that our country's youth is exposed to a STEM curriculum, which is paramount to the future of our country. A prevalent theme amongst successful STEM professionals is the curiosity and drive instilled by their teachers at a young age. We must continue to invest in schools that highlight a STEM education, so that all students will have an opportunity to one day be an astrophysicist, doctor, engineer, or a geologist.

Mr. Speaker, Lasalle-Backus Education Campus is a true advocate of STEM education and deserves recognition for its work. With great pride I can say that because of this school's commitment to STEM education, our

country's youth is gaining the skills needed to compete in a rapidly globalizing world.

TRIBUTE TO BOB CRITTENDEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Bob Crittenden, of Afton, Iowa for being selected as Union County's 2016 inductee into the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame.

Bob Crittenden is a lifetime resident of Union County. He has been involved with 4-H since becoming a member of the Royal Rustlers 4-H club in 1949 and a volunteer with the organization for 40 years. Bob showed market beef at the Union County Fair and the Iowa State Fair. Since then, he has helped with the beef projects as a mentor to the youth. He also has helped with the weighing, the show ring, and volunteered his talents as an auctioneer on many occasions.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Bob Crittenden demonstrates the rewards of harnessing one's talents and sharing them with the world. His efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent Bob Crittenden and many Iowans like him in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Bob Crittenden for his achievements and wish him nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Tuesday, September 20, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 521, 522 and 523.

PEARLAND'S KRISHNAKUMAR HEADS BACK TO SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pearland, Texas student Siddharth Krishnakumar for becoming co-champion of the Houston Public Media Spelling Bee—the second largest local bee in the U.S. His accomplishment means a repeat trip to the Scripps National Spelling Bee, where he previously took 4th place in the nation.

Siddharth, an eighth-grader at Pearland Junior High West, won his Spelling Bee title by correctly spelling the word "ineffable." He advances to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in February. We are very proud of Siddharth and wish him luck on the national stage.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again

to Siddharth for becoming co-champion of the Houston Public Media Spelling Bee. Keep up the great work.

COMMEMORATING THE PASSING OF CHARLES Z. SMITH

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to my friend Justice Charles Z. Smith, of Seattle, Washington, who passed away at the age of 89 on Sunday, August 28, 2016. Charles was the first African American state trial judge and Supreme Court justice of Washington State. He was a role model to many, and leaves a trailblazing legacy of social justice and public service.

Charles Zellender Smith was born in Florida in 1927 to an African-American mother who was the daughter of slaves and a Cuban immigrant father. After serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, he attended Temple University and graduated in 1952. Charles moved to Seattle and was accepted to the University of Washington Law School. Out of a class of 120, he was the only student of color to graduate in 1955.

His career was a series of firsts: unable to find a law firm to hire him after he graduated, he became the first African-American law clerk for a state Supreme Court justice. In 1965, he became the first African-American to serve as a Seattle municipal court judge, and in 1966, he was the first person of color named to the King County Superior Court bench.

He stepped down to become a professor and associate dean of law at the University of Washington, during which he began a long fight for reparations for Japanese Americans interned in camps during World War II. Later, in private practice, he urged the Seattle City Council to declare the city a "sanctuary city" for refugees from Guatemala and El Salvador.

In 1988, Gov. Booth Gardner appointed Smith to the State Supreme Court and he served until his retirement in 2002. He was known as a thoughtful judge with a reputation for fairness and often was the swing vote in split decisions. From the bench, he spoke eloquently, without notes, and often advocated for immigrant rights and innovative criminal rehabilitation methods.

As well as serving on the Washington State Supreme Court, Justice Smith was a television commentator and president of the American Baptist Churches. In 1999, while still on the Court, President Bill Clinton appointed him to serve on the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, where he helped develop policies promoting religious freedom and ending the civil war in Sudan.

Mr. Speaker, Justice Smith worked tirelessly for over five decades as an advocate for truth, justice and freedom. He broke down barriers and forged a path for generations to follow. He will be greatly missed.